

STAT

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

--

COUNTRY USSR

DATE OF
INFORMATION 1951

SUBJECT Economic - Furniture industry

HOW
PUBLISHED Semiweekly newspaper

DATE DIST 26 Feb 1952

WHERE
PUBLISHED Moscow

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE
PUBLISHED 7 Oct 1951

LANGUAGE Russian

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT NO
50, U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION
OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PRO-
HIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Lesnaya Promyshlennost'.

LOCAL INDUSTRY FURNITURE WORKERS AIM FOR HIGHER QUALITY

D. Alekhin, Minister of
Local Industry RSFSR

Recent press criticism of the furniture industry strikes also at the furniture workers under the Ministries of Local Industry. Within the local industry system, there is a broad network of enterprises producing many kinds of furniture. These enterprises number 1,200 in the RSFSR alone.

Furniture production in the local industry system is increasing year after year. This year, output is at a level 30 percent higher than last year; during the first 6 months, local industry provided the population with furniture worth almost 200 million rubles.

But this growth is not keeping pace with demand, either as to quantity or quality. And local industry possesses great possibilities for further expansion in the output of furniture. This is apparent from the fact that although the ministry as a whole exceeded the first 6-months' plan, the enterprises of only 31 oblasts out of 81 met the plan. The assortment program was carried out in an entirely unsatisfactory manner: only cabinets and mattresses were produced in planned quantities, while production of tables, chairs, buffets, sofas, wooden beds, and mirrors was far short of plan.

The struggle for quality is still ineffective. Especially severe criticism has been directed at the products of local industry enterprises in Chita. Furniture produced there is often made from poorly seasoned wood, is unveneered, roughly finished, and not varnished and polished.

Many other enterprises also put out unpopular products. Chapayevsk Gorpromkombinat (City Industry Combine) in Kuybyshev Oblast is making mattresses covered with varicolored strips of cloth. Furniture enterprises in Penza produce sofas covered with dull blue cloth which do not sell. Local industry enterprises in Smolensk Oblast, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and Dagestan ASSR pay little attention to quality of product.

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB																	
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI																	

STAT

RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

The situation in regard to delivery of furniture into trade channels is unsatisfactory. Many local industry enterprises producing furniture for the mass market divert their product to various institutions and organizations and by such diversion violate a state decision that 90 percent of all products go to the population. Local industry enterprises in Tula and Kostroma oblasts and Bashkir and Udmurt ASSRs are especially frequent violators of this decision.

Measures taken to improve the activity of local industry furniture enterprises include the following:

1. Placement of furniture specialists in stores for interviews and conferences with buyers.
2. Holding of conferences in which furniture enterprise workers and TsNIMOD (Central Scientific Research Institute for Mechanical Woodprocessing), NIIDrevzash (Scientific Research Institute for Woodprocessing Machinery), and Academy of Architecture USSR members participate.
3. Designation of some enterprises for specialized production.
4. Construction of many new and redesigning of old furniture factories. Construction of the new enterprises is proceeding very slowly in most oblasts.
5. Installation in 1951 of new seasoning rooms at 100 enterprises, of which 52 are already in use. This measure is important because the process of seasoning not infrequently makes production increases difficult.
6. Introduction at some enterprises of the spray varnishing method.
7. To increase local industry's own raw material supplies, increased logging of industrial wood and organization of new timber managements in Komi ASSR and Arkhangel'sk, Vologda, Kirov, and Molotov oblasts.
8. Organization of new enterprises for the production of upholstering cloth, mattress ticking, leatherette, joiner's glue, varnish, polish and plastic materials, the shortage of which has made furniture production increases difficult.

A measure intended to satisfy buyers' demands for higher quality furniture is that of changing furniture designs and eliminating undesired types. To be eliminated are unwieldy buffets of antiquated design, excessively high wooden beds, ugly dining chairs, primitive desks, and other items.

The Planning-Designing Bureau of Mosgordrevprom (Moscow City Wood-Processing Industry) in association with a group of architects and artists, all recognized specialists, recently designed 20 new furniture models. Adopted for production have been an attractive and compact buffet, extension tables, a chiffernier, child's combination high chair, three-shelf enclosed bookcase, new sofa, and other items.

Recently, two photograph albums of new furniture models and individual plans of the models were published. These will permit local industry enterprises to begin production of good furniture which will satisfy the buyers' demands.

- E N D -

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED